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[Claim 1] An ink composition for ink jet recording, prepared by dissolving and/or dispersing the dye represented by the following general formula (1) in at least one aqueous medium, characterized in that at least one anionic surfactant is contained in the ink composition. General formula (1)

$$(Y_1)b_1$$

$$(X_1)a_1$$

$$(Y_2)b_2$$

$$(X_2)a_2$$

$$(Y_3)a_4$$

$$(Y_4)b_4$$

$$(Y_1)b_1$$

$$(Y_1)b_1$$

where  $X_1$ ,  $X_2$ ,  $X_3$  and  $X_4$  each independently represents -SO-Z,  $-SO_2-Z$ ,  $-SO_2NR_1R_2$ , a sulfo group,  $-CONR_1R_2$  or  $-CO_2R_1$ . Z represents a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group. R<sub>1</sub> and R<sub>2</sub> each independently represents a hydrogen atom, a substituted or unsubstituted alkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted cycloalkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted alkenyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aralkyl group, a substituted or unsubstituted aryl group, or a substituted or unsubstituted heterocyclic group. When a plurality of Z are present, they may be identical or different.  $Y_1$ ,  $Y_2$ , Y3 and Y4 each independently represents a monovalent substituent. In addition, when any of  $X_1$  to  $X_4$  or  $Y_1$  to  $Y_4$ are present by plurality of numbers, they may be identical or different. M represents a hydrogen atom, a metal atom or an oxide, hydroxide or halide thereof. a<sub>1</sub> to a<sub>4</sub> and b<sub>1</sub> to  $b_4$  each represents the number of substituents of  $X_1$  to  $X_4$  and  $Y_1$  to  $Y_4$ ,  $a_1$  to  $a_4$  each independently represents an integer of from 0 to 4 where all of them do not represent 0 simultaneously, and b<sub>1</sub> to b<sub>4</sub> each independently represents an integer of from 0 to 4.